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2020 round of population and housing censuses in Africa

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I. **Background: Demand-driven interventions in support of the 2020 round of population and housing censuses in Africa**

1. On 10 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2015/10 on the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, in which the Council recognized the increasing importance of the 2020 round of population and housing censuses for meeting the data needs of the follow-up activities to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and upholding national and international commitments. The 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses comprises a number of activities aimed at ensuring that Member States conduct a population and housing census for the period 2015–2024. In the resolution, the Council urged Member States to conduct at least one population and housing census under the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, taking into account international and regional recommendations relating to population and housing censuses and giving particular attention to advance planning, cost efficiency, coverage and the timely dissemination of, and easy access to, census results for national stakeholders, the United Nations and other appropriate intergovernmental organizations in order to inform decisions and facilitate the effective implementation of development plans and programmes. The Council also underscored the need for countries to set quality assurance standards for the conduct and evaluation of population and housing censuses in order to uphold the integrity, reliability, accuracy and value of the population and housing census results, taking into full account the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. It encouraged the development of international methodological guidelines based on national best practices in census-taking. Countries were also advised to conduct a review of their various national experiences as far as census-taking activities were concerned in preparation for the development of international standards.

2. In May 2013, the Statistics Division of the United Nations conducted a worldwide survey on desirable revisions to the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*. There were nine questions in the survey, which was designed, among other things, to assess experiences in the 2010 census round. Responses were received from 40 countries and a number of organizations and highlighted where additions, expansions and deletions to the *Principles and Recommendations* were necessary. Most of the respondents suggested revisions relating to: (a) census methodologies; (b) methods of enumeration; (c) contracting out census operations; (d) the use of technology in censuses; (e) providing access to microdata; (f) data confidentiality; (g) data archiving; (h) estimation of census costs; (i) data dissemination strategies; (j) quality-setting and management; (k) census evaluation; and (l) census publicity strategies.

3. At the first joint session of the Committee of Directors General of National Statistics Offices and the Statistical Commission for Africa, which was held in Tunis in December 2014, it was decided that the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development should resume its focus on helping countries to undertake the 2020 round of population and housing censuses. The Africa Symposium was also encouraged to keep up the momentum that had been generated in the 2010 round, enabling 47 African countries to undertake censuses. In order to sustain the progress achieved during the 2010 round of censuses in Africa, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in collaboration with key partners, developed an African regional programme on population and housing censuses for the coming five years that encompassed sustainable capacity development, technical support and South-South cooperation.

4. A demand-driven approach is in line with ongoing efforts to implement the updated Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa, which was formulated jointly by ECA, the African Union Commission, African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Capacity-Building Foundation. The updated Strategy, which was endorsed by African Heads of State and Government in 2018 and covers the period 2017–2026, supports the implementation of a range of development programmes and is aimed at enhancing coordination and collaboration among national institutes of statistics, regional and continental organizations and development partners. The updated Strategy facilitates the production of comparable statistics and can thus help to strengthen the implementation and outcomes of programmes and policies at the national, regional, continental and international levels. The key outcomes that emanate from the strategic objectives of the updated Strategy are the adoption of common international norms adapted to African realities and the enhanced coordination of development efforts and the sustainable production of a wide range of harmonized statistics that can help to inform political decisions and be used to measure the progress made in the implementation of development agendas.

II. Preparations for the 2020 census-taking activities in Africa

5. A number of African countries have begun preparations for the 2020 census round. Egypt and Lesotho have already conducted their 2020 round censuses. Several other countries, including Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Mali, are currently at advanced stages in their census preparatory activities.

A. Workshops held in support of the 2020 round of population and housing censuses in Africa

6. An Expert Group Meeting was convened by ECA in Nairobi from 19 to 22 July 2016, with a view to developing the first revision of the *Africa Addendum to the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* in order to bring it in line with the third revision of the *Principles and Recommendations*, developed for the 2020 round. The main objective of that meeting was to discuss the outlines of the various chapters of the first revision and to provide further input that could be considered in the revision process, especially with regard to conceptual and definitional changes and data requirements that may arise from efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.

7. The United Nations Regional Workshop on the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: International Standards and Contemporary Technologies was convened in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, from 29 May to 1 June 2017 by the Statistics Division, in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics of Tanzania, ECA, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and AfDB. In addition, the same regional workshop was convened in Lusaka from 20 to 23 March 2017 by the Statistics Division in collaboration with the Central Statistical Office of Zambia, ECA, UNFPA and AfDB. Those workshops were held primarily to review two recently revised international sets of guidelines, namely, the third revision of the *Principles and Recommendations* and the *Handbook on the Management of Population and Housing Censuses (Revision 2)*, including the standards, concepts and methodologies contained therein, in order to facilitate national planning and preparations for the 2020 round. The workshops also provided a forum for reviewing countries' experiences in using innovative technologies, including those for census mapping and data collection, as well as good practices in that area.

8. Furthermore, in collaboration with ECA, UNFPA, the Jordanian Department of Statistics and the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, the Statistics Division organized a technical meeting on the use of electronic data-collection technologies in population and housing censuses. The meeting, which was held in Amman from 28 November to 1 December 2016, was attended by some 40 participants, including census experts from 20 national statistics offices from around the world, and representatives of the regional commissions of the United Nations, UNFPA, the World Bank and other international agencies. The census experts from national statistics offices were invited to attend the meeting so that they could share their countries' experiences in using electronic data-collection technologies, including handheld devices, in census enumeration. The main objective of the technical meeting was to gather input for the drafting of guidelines on the use of electronic data-collection technologies in census-taking activities, on the basis of countries' experiences and practices in that area. Specifically, the meeting was aimed at: (a) identifying how stakeholders could make sound decisions on the use of electronic data-collection technologies and develop strategies that promoted their efficient and effective use; (b) reviewing the business processes that were critical in the successful implementation of electronic data-collection technology initiatives, with a focus on the use of handheld electronic devices and the Internet; and (c) providing a forum for discussions regarding benefits and challenges relating to the use of electronic data-collection technologies and potential strategies for maximizing the benefits of investments in that area.

9. The Regional Training Workshop on Human Settlement Indicators was organized by ECA in partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Gaborone from 13 to 15 December 2017, and was convened under the auspices of Statistics Botswana. Thirty people took part in the meeting, including participants from 10 member States (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eswatini, the Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius and South Africa) and consultants and representatives of a number of United Nations agencies.

10. In partnership with the Statistics Division, ECA organized a regional training workshop on the use of the Internet and electronic devices, which was held in Yaoundé from 26 to 30 March 2018, in collaboration with the National Institute of Statistics of Cameroon and its National Bureau of Census and Population Studies. The workshop was the fifth regional consultation meeting on the use of electronic devices and the Internet in demographic data collection in sub-Saharan Africa. More than 45 people took part in the workshop, including participants from Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Senegal, the Sudan and Zimbabwe, and participants from the West and Central Africa Regional Office of UNFPA, the *Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques* and from a reference centre on the use of electronic devices for data collection. The workshop focused primarily on the main chapters of the draft of the Statistics Division guidelines on the use of electronic data-collection technologies in population and housing censuses, reviewed the experiences of countries and institutions in that area and provided time for discussions. In preparation for the Yaoundé meeting, ECA, the Statistics Division and the national statistics office of Egypt co-organized a task force meeting to finalize the text of the draft guidelines.

11. ECA also co-organized the United Nations Regional Meeting on Disability Measurement and Statistics in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme for Africa. The objectives of the meeting, which was held in Kampala from 15 to 17 November 2016, were to: (a) review and discuss countries' experiences when measuring the population with disabilities during censuses of the 2010 round; (b) provide an opportunity to discuss strategies for the compilation of data on

disability, with a view to monitoring progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; and (c) foster intraregional cooperation, with a view to enhancing national capacities in disability measurement and improving the quality of data for monitoring the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

12. ECA participated in a panel discussion on the theme “African censuses in 2020: will they be the best ever?” at the 28th International Population Conference of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 29 October to 4 November 2017. The Conference is organized every four years by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, in collaboration with an institution of the host country. It attracts as many as 2,000 participants, comprising population scholars, policymakers and government officials from around the world to discuss the most recent population research and debate pressing global and regional population issues.

13. ECA and the Statistics Division also organized a national training workshop with producers and users of gender statistics. The main objective of the workshop, held in Kampala in October 2017, was to enhance the capacity of statistics offices to communicate statistics, in particular for selected tier I indicators (Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4, 5 and 8) to various user groups and to strengthen the gender statistics literacy of data users. The specific objectives of the workshop were to: (a) expose participants to the fundamentals of producer-user dialogue in gender statistics production; (b) provide participants with a basis for mainstreaming gender concerns into various aspects of their work; (c) reinforce the capacity of participants to assess the gender responsiveness of national statistics systems; and (d) raise participants’ awareness of gender statistics requirements and of key gender concerns in the context of national development efforts. Participants included staff from national statistics offices, government agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as academic users of gender statistics.

14. ECA participated in the first United Nations World Data Forum, which was held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 15 to 18 January 2017 and hosted by Statistics South Africa. The second United Nations World Data Forum will be hosted in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 22 to 24 October 2018, by the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority of the United Arab Emirates. On the basis of a key recommendation contained in the Data Revolution Report, published in November 2014 by the Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development, the Statistical Commission agreed that a World Data Forum would be a suitable platform for strengthening cooperation with various professional groups, including those representing experts in information and communications technology (ICT), geospatial information managers, data scientists and data users, and with civil society stakeholders. The High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development leads the organization of the World Data Forum under the guidance of the Statistical Commission and in close consultation with Member States and international partners. The World Data Forum acts as a catalyst to spur African countries’ participation in the 2020 round.

B. Advisory services in support of census-taking activities in Africa

15. ECA undertook two advisory missions in support of the population and housing census being done by Burkina Faso. The first mission was in response to a request (No. 2018-000329/MINEFID/SG/INSD), submitted on 15 March 2018 by the Director General of the National Institute of Statistics and Demography of Burkina Faso and provided the Institute with technical support, with a view to developing a digital census cartographic framework to support preparatory activities for the country’s population and housing census. The second mission took place from 25 to 29 June 2018 in response to the findings of the first mission,

which had recommended that ECA and the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development should undertake a joint technical assistance mission to assess and test methodologies for census cartography, with a view to enhancing 2020 census outcomes. The Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development, which was established in 1975 under the auspices of ECA, seeks to promote sustainable development in member States through the generation, application and dissemination of geo-information and associated ICT, products and services.

16. ECA also undertook an advisory mission to the National Institute of Statistics in Mali in response to a request (No. 000288/MATP) submitted on 18 April 2018 by the Director General of that Institute. The two-day advisory mission provided technical support to the Institute, with a view to developing a digital census cartographic framework for Mali that would support preparatory activities for the country's population and housing census. The missions to Burkina Faso and Mali assessed those countries' census cartographic preparatory activities, evaluated their census cartographic implementation plans and assessed expected outputs.

17. The African Centre for Statistics of ECA visited the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia on 8 June 2017 in order to assess the Agency's preparedness for the 2017 Ethiopian population and housing census. A revised workplan for collaboration between the African Centre for Statistics and the Central Statistical Agency was developed, in which ECA agreed to support the census process in Ethiopia by, among other things, developing data management protocols, supporting the integration of digitally recorded and printed data, supporting efforts to extract and tabulate census data, facilitating the development of census data spatial analysis methodologies, providing training in the use of statistical software and developing census applications.

C. Guidelines developed in support of census-taking activities in Africa

1. 2020 Census Preparedness: Preliminary Report on the Status of Country Preparedness for the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Africa

18. ECA has issued a preliminary report on planned activities to be undertaken in the context of the 2020 round. The preliminary assessment on country preparedness was undertaken with a view to highlighting specific areas in which ECA and other relevant stakeholders could take action to strengthen the capacity of African countries to conduct censuses. Many countries have only a limited awareness of their capacity gaps in that area, and few capacity gap assessment exercises have been undertaken. ECA will, in due course, develop a comprehensive assessment tool that will facilitate the targeted provision of technical support to countries during the 2020 round. In that connection, it should be noted that many countries lack the resources necessary to assess their ability to conduct censuses every 10 years, as recommended by the United Nations. It is crucial to help countries to conduct needs assessments and ensure that adequate resources are allocated from national budgets and development aid programmes so that countries can conduct census-taking activities. Moreover, a number of countries lack personnel with an understanding of how to prepare for censuses. Over the years, ECA has developed census preparedness training modules for census takers and decision-makers that countries can incorporate into census training programmes. ECA will facilitate efforts by countries to establish census preparedness focal points.

2. Revised Africa Addendum to the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses

19. The *Africa Addendum to the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* was first published in 2008 to address specific issues pertaining to Africa. The first revision of the *African Addendum* brings it in line with the third revision of the *Principles and Recommendations*. Population and housing censuses are important sources of data on demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of populations. Censuses are indispensable sources of, among other things, benchmark demographic and socioeconomic data for small-area domains, including data that can be used for effective socioeconomic planning and governance, as well as for monitoring and evaluating development policies and programmes such as the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. In addition, censuses provide area sampling frames for inter-censal sample surveys. The *Principles and Recommendations*, which provide guidance to countries to facilitate their efforts to plan, manage and conduct high-quality and cost-effective censuses, are reviewed during each census round and amended, in line with new and emerging issues. Although African countries are fully committed to implementing the *Principles and Recommendations*, these remain global in scope and, accordingly, do not always capture the unique and specific needs of Africa. The revised *Africa Addendum* therefore focuses on a number of definitions, classifications and topics of specific concern in the African region.

3. Use of geo-referenced dwelling frames for census cartography during the 2010 round

20. The use of geo-referenced dwelling frames, in which every building is marked by a unique geographic coordinate, is a relatively new concept in Africa. Although previous rounds of censuses in Africa relied primarily on traditional census cartographic methods, the use of geo-referenced dwelling frames by some African countries in the 2010 round significantly improved their census methodologies, including in areas such as enumeration area demarcation, office demarcation, office updating, office corrections and settlement classification. The present report is aimed at raising awareness of the benefits of geo-referenced dwelling frames in dealing with timeliness and data-quality issues and encourage policy dialogue among decision-makers, geospatial information specialists and other stakeholders. The use of dwelling frames can significantly improve the quality of data generated from censuses and surveys.

4. Guidelines on the Use of Electronic Data Collection Technologies in Population and Housing Censuses

21. The Statistics Division recently published *Guidelines on the Use of Electronic Data Collection Technologies in Population and Housing Censuses*, which have been formulated to support efforts by national statistics offices and census officials to plan and implement censuses that make use of electronic data-collection technologies. The *Guidelines* focus on key considerations that should be taken into account when planning the use of those technologies and emphasize the importance of establishing sound decision-making mechanisms that can be used to evaluate whether a specific technology solution is viable and cost-effective and should therefore be introduced. Census ICT projects can be costly and unreliable, and the *Guidelines* underscore the importance of effective and efficient management mechanisms that can leverage the benefits of ICT investment and minimize risks related to ICT acquisitions and systems development. The *Guidelines* present recommended action to facilitate the reorganization of national statistics offices and their capacity-building efforts so that they can make effective use of electronic data-collection technologies. The *Guidelines* prescribe how geospatial information systems can be used to seamlessly integrate countries' census mapping, enumeration and data analysis phases and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of field work operations. The *Guidelines* also address how ICT systems and electronic data should be secured so as to prevent any inappropriate disclosure of sensitive information and

disruptions to critical operations. In addition, the *Guidelines* complement and should be read in conjunction with the *Principles and Recommendations* and the *Handbook on the Management of Population and Housing Censuses*. While these publications present general issues associated with planning and managing census data collection, the *Guidelines* focus on a set of selected, essential and critical planning, management and implementation issues and processes specific to the use of electronic handheld devices and the Internet in census data collection. The *Guidelines* build on the experience of countries that have deployed electronic data-collection technologies in recent censuses. They do not cover all aspects of countries' experiences, however, and it should be underscored that the successful adoption of electronic data-collection technologies is dependent on numerous contextual and operational factors and adapting approaches in the light of institutional strengths and weaknesses. Countries should therefore employ the *Guidelines* only to the extent that they are relevant to their specific circumstances. Indeed, each national statistics office must carefully evaluate which technology options will effectively support its census programme and the achievement of its mandate.

D. 2020 Africa Programme on Population and Housing Censuses Decade (2015 – 2024) and workplan for 2016–2020

22. In collaboration with key partners, ECA developed the 2020 Africa Programme on Population and Housing Censuses Decade (2015–2024). A workplan for 2016–2020 was prepared with the collaboration of AfDB. During the meeting in Nairobi in July 2016, representatives of ECA, UNFPA and AfDB decided that the five-year Africa census programme was already in place and reached initial agreement to work together to ensure its implementation. They indicated the need to thoroughly review and take stock of the Programme. They also agreed to bring the subject to the attention of higher management in the three institutions and to endeavour to align the Programme with their institutional and other upcoming plans, even though it might not be possible to secure the financial resources necessary to implement that Programme during the remaining months of 2016.

23. The 2020 Africa Programme on Population and Housing Censuses Decade (2015–2024) and the workplan for 2016–2020 have three objectives: the provision of direct technical support necessary for census planning, management, data collection, processing, analysis and dissemination; the building of technical capacity for the various phases of a census operation; and support to countries in difficult circumstances in preparing to conduct population and housing censuses.

24. The project's expected accomplishments are: (a) implementation of the set of accepted international principles and recommendations governing the conduct of censuses, and tailoring some of these international principles and recommendations to the realities of the continent; (b) the conduct of a census in each African country during the period 2015–2024; (c) the use of better methods and new technologies to increase the reliability and accessibility of statistics in a timely manner; and (d) the provision of technical assistance to help countries to plan and conduct censuses, capture, process, analyse, disseminate, document and archive census data, and monitor and disseminate information on the implementation of the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses.

E. Africa Census Coordinating Committee

25. At its ninth session, held in Libreville on 29 and 30 November 2015, the Committee of Directors General decided to establish the Africa Census

Coordinating Committee at the continental level in 2016 to guide and coordinate the development and implementation of the 2020 census round. The Committee included representatives of ECA, UNFPA and AfDB and the census offices of a number of countries from the continent's various subregions. Its terms of reference were drafted by ECA, UNFPA and AfDB and the secretariat of the Africa Symposiums on Statistical Development. The representatives of ECA, UNFPA and AfDB agreed to incorporate either the Africa Programme on Population and Housing Census Decade or the five-year Africa census programme into their plans and seek the resources necessary for its implementation. They also agreed that the activities of the Programme would be coordinated by ECA.

F. Promoting South–South and triangular cooperation

Establishing reference centres in censuses with electronic data collection in Africa

26. In order to promote South–South and triangular cooperation, ECA, UNFPA and AfDB have been discussing the idea of establishing a regional centre of excellence that would promote and facilitate the use of efficient and effective technology in African censuses, including, in particular, the use of handheld devices in census enumeration. At the eleventh African Symposium on Statistical Development, held in Libreville in November 2015, it was decided to establish a working group to define the criteria and scope of centres of excellence in ICT-enabled mapping and data production, analysis, dissemination and management that cater to the specific needs of countries for the successful implementation of the civil registration and vital statistics strategy and the 2020 round of censuses in roll-out countries in support of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, consistent with the priorities of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa. In furtherance of that resolution, a side event was held at the forty-seventh session of the Statistical Commission on the establishment of reference centres in censuses with electronic data collection in Africa, organized by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics and UNFPA.

27. As previously mentioned, ECA has been collaborating with the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development to provide technical support to African countries in census cartography. Further to their successful mission to Burkina Faso, ECA and the Regional Centre plan to conduct other joint missions to support African countries' census-taking activities in the 2020 round.

G. 2020 round of population and housing censuses in Africa and the 2030 Agenda

28. The 2020 census round will take place within the implementation period of the 2030 Agenda. Progress towards achieving the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals is tracked using 232 indicators and United Nations Member States are committed to developing national indicators in line with the global aspirations embodied in the 2030 Agenda. The quantity and breadth of data required to monitor and evaluate the achievements of the Goals is daunting and presents a substantial challenge to the global data community. The topics addressed in the Goals are evaluated using data sources derived from diverse environmental and socioeconomic monitoring instruments. Demographic data are especially important for Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 and can be monitored in part through household-based censuses and surveys. Assessments of a wide range of the targets can be made using demographic data. Capturing and making good use of demographic data for sustainable development was the focus of the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development, held in 2016. Reliable information regarding the size, growth, distribution and characteristics

of populations is crucial not only to guide development policies supporting the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, but also to assess progress in that regard. Population censuses are therefore a critical source of information that can foster sustainable development. Taking a census is a complex and massive exercise, involving the complete enumeration of a population, while also recording key characteristics of individuals and households.

Table

Measuring census-related targets and indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals

<i>Target</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Direct measurement from census</i>	<i>Indirect measurement from census</i>
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere			
1.1	1.1.1	✓	
1.2	1.2.1 and 1.2.2	✓	
1.3	1.3.3	✓	
1.4	1.4.1 and 1.4.2		✓
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages			
3.1	3.1.1	✓	
3.2	3.2.1		✓
3.7	3.7.2	✓	
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all			
4.1	4.1.1	✓	
4.2	4.2.2	✓	
4.3	4.3.1	✓	
4.5	4.5.1		✓
4.6	4.6.1	✓	
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls			
5.3	5.3.1	✓	
5.5	5.5.2	✓	
5.b	5.b.1	✓	
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all			
6.1	6.1.1	✓	
6.2	6.2.1	✓	
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all			
7.1	7.1.1 and 7.1.2	✓	
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all			
8.5	8.5.2	✓	
8.6	8.6.1	✓	
8.7	8.7.1		✓
8.9	8.9.2		✓
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation			
9.2	9.2.2	✓	
9.5	9.5.2	✓	

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries			
10.2	10.2.1	✓	
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable			
11.1	11.1.1	✓	
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels			
16.7	16.7.1	✓	
16.9	16.9.1	✓	
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development			
17.6	17.6.2	✓	

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs; United States Census Bureau.

III. Conclusion

29. The vast majority of African countries are now preparing for or carrying out their national censuses as part of the 2020 round. To ensure the round's success, it is vital that all key stakeholders remain committed to the process until its completion, in particular given that the round is characterized by a number of emerging challenges, including those relating to the use of innovative technologies, that must be addressed as part of an inclusive, consultative and coordinated process involving all relevant actors.

IV. Points for discussion

30. The following points for discussion should be considered:

- (a) Encourage countries to undertake the 2020 round of censuses in Africa;
- (b) Emerging issues relating to census-taking activities in Africa, including the use of dwelling frames and building footprints in census cartography, the use of handheld devices, the use of spatial data collected during census cartography activities and modifications to census chronograms following the introduction of mobile devices;
- (c) Mobilize resources for census-taking activities in Africa;
- (d) 2030 Agenda, Agenda 2063 and the 2020 round of population and housing censuses in Africa.